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THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) No, Sir. On 15th March 1955, the Police, however, recovered a black belting about 98 feet long from the Madras Hotel, Cannanore, which was alleged to have been left there by the Store-keeper, Central Jail, Cannanore, on his arrival at the hotel from Salem on 14th March 1955.

(*b*) Yes, Sir.

(*c*) A case has been registered by the Police and the accused will be charged under section 379, Indian Penal Code.

Retrenchment of some workers in rubber estates in Malabar

* 2356 *Q*.—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI (on behalf of Sri K. P. Gopalan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the management of Nilambur Rubber Estate, Munderi, Nilambur, Malabar, retrenched 30 workers on 11th March 1955, without giving any proper notice and retrenchment benefits thus violating Industrial Disputes Act, as amended in 1953;

(*b*) whether the Government has conducted any conciliation proceedings in the matter; and

(*c*) if so, with what result?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) & (*c*) With the good offices of the Labour Officer, Kozhikode, the management and the workers had settled their dispute amicably.

* 2357 *Q*.—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI (on behalf of Sri K. P. Gopalan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that thirty-four tappers were dismissed from the Mannarghat Rubber Estates, Malabar, recently;

(*b*) if so, whether Government have conducted any conciliation proceedings and with what result;

(*c*) whether the management of the said estate have given proper notice to the workers before retrenchment; and

(*d*) the causes for the retrenchment?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) to (*d*) A report has been called for from the Commissioner of Labour and it is awaited.

Family planning institutions in the State

* 2358 *Q*.—SRI C. KANDASAMY (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state the amount spent by the Government on family planning institutions in the State in 1954–55?

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : A sum of Rs. 55-6-0 (rupees fifty-five and annas six only) was spent during 1954–55 on the advertisement charges in connexion with family planning.

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Is the Hon. the Minister for Health in any way qualifying himself in family planning?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : The hon. Member seems to be a specialist in this matter, Sir.

DR. K. B. MENON : Have the Government any plan to have family planning centres in every village?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : Family planning centres are being set up in eight big hospitals. Thirteen part-time clinics are being opened in all district headquarters hospitals. Instructions have been given that at maternity centres advice on family planning should be given to married couples who want such advice.

SRI K. R. SAMBANDAM : How many family planning centres are there in the City?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : There are nine family planning clinics in the City.

SRI S. C. VIRUPAKSHIAH : Are the Government very serious about this family planning and do they feel that the sum now being spent is adequate for the work?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY : The Government of India have sanctioned to this State a grant of Rs. 15,000 for the opening of a Research Centre at the Women and Children Hospital at Egmore. Eight full-time family planning clinics have been set up. The recurring expenditure will be about Rs. 60,200 per annum and this will be shared by the Central and the State Governments.

Sales tax on Inter-State trade.

* 2359 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the amount of sales tax collected on inter-State trade during 1954; and

(*b*) the number of officers appointed to collect the tax from outside the State and their travelling allowance?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) Rupees 9,19,324–13–4.

(*b*) One Commercial Tax Officer, four Deputy Commercial Tax Officers and four Assistant Commercial Tax Officers have been appointed. The amount of travelling allowance paid to them during 1954 is Rs. 1,402-3-3 which includes the travelling allowance for the staff that accompanied them.